



Caribbean Basin Security Initiative:

Program Overview

Community Safety and Security: Building upon past successes with Community Based Policing, USAID focuses on the strengthening of Community Based and Civil Society Organizations, the promotion of community-driven activities, the development of long-term champions of a culture of lawfulness, and the enhancement of Ministries, Departments and Agencies of the state to be more community-oriented institutions. In this way USAID contributes to building safer communities, strengthening social cohesion, and improving civic engagement/participation.

Youth-At-Risk Programs: USAID works with holistic, youth-friendly approaches that aim to assist at-risk youth in becoming active citizens through the engagement of different social, educational and behavioral, and recreational activities. This approach includes three main areas regarding youth involved in criminality: prevention, intervention and rehabilitation including diversion activities as alternatives to traditional incarceration for first-time offenders. Youth also develop skills through educational programs, which introduce them to fundamental concepts in business, economics, individual accountability, and entrepreneurship.

Workforce Development: USAID expects that life-skills and technical training will increase opportunities for at-risk youth to work within the legitimate economy, thereby reducing the likelihood of involvement in gang and criminal activity. In Jamaica, relationships with key public sector, private sector, and donor agency partners are being leveraged to create programs to build skills and identify work options for youth. USAID also works in the youth remandee centers, which includes case management/follow up to facilitate at-risk youth acquiring job and education opportunities when they are released.

Anti-Corruption: The National Integrity Action (NIA) 'Combatting Corruption in Jamaica Project' has not only built public demand for more effective action against corruption through awareness campaigns, but has also provided training to government and civil society partners to build capacity and increase advocacy. The project is expected to have an impact on the nation's capacity and ability to effectively control instances of and attitudes toward corruption in general, and political corruption in particular.



Global Climate Change Initiative:

GCC Adaptation (DA): USAID through the JA-REEACH II program (Jamaica Rural Economy and Ecosystems Adapting to Climate Change phase two) focuses on reducing vulnerability to climate change within the agriculture sector and mainstreaming climate change across sectors and government, ecosystem protection and conservation measures to buffer climate impacts, and training to improve curricula development and research on climate change in higher education. Other climate smart adaptive measures are implemented through the Peace Corps volunteers and their community counterparts. Finally, disaster risk reduction activities in urban communities has been integrated into the COMET II (CBSI) activity; DRR activities act as a catalyst bringing together local police and citizens in vulnerable communities.

GCC Mitigation (DA): The EC-LEDS (Enhancing Capacity for Low Emission Development Strategies) focuses on improving the capacity of partner governments to consider low carbon development as part of their strategic planning and implementation of policies. USAID helps build capacity within the GOJ and key private sector and NGO stakeholders to develop and implement low emission development strategies. The exact form of the assistance has been determined through an extensive collaborative process between the USG and GOJ and involves creating climate sector resilient plans across sectors in Government. In line with Vice President Biden's launch of the Caribbean Energy Security Initiative (CESI), the Mission launched a 5 year clean energy program promoting integration of renewables into the electricity grid, and energy efficiency across the Caribbean. Other EC-LEDS activities involve working in communities to reduce non-technical losses such as illegal connections and increase energy efficiency.

Inter-Agency Collaboration: USAID partners with the State Department and the Department of Energy National Renewable Energy Lab on various climate change mitigation activities under the EC-LEDS program, including support to develop the country's Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) for the energy sector under the U.N. Framework Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) and an evaluation of nation-wide renewable energy net billing program with the utility and regulator.

Caribbean Energy Security Initiative (CESI):

The Caribbean Clean Energy Program (CARCEP) assists Jamaica and countries in the Eastern Caribbean to set up effective policies, regulations, and incentives for greater energy efficiency and low-emission growth in the energy sector. CARCEP promotes public and private sector investment in clean energy to meet the objectives of CESI and the Caribbean 2020: Strategy for US Engagement in the Caribbean.

CARCEP helps establish an enabling environment for clean energy development, promotes integration of renewable energy sources, and accelerates private sector clean energy investment while coordinating USG interagency activities in the energy sector. Through CARCEP, Jamaica is on track to reduce emissions by eight percent in the next 12 years.



The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief:

Currently, there are an estimated 29,364 Jamaicans living with HIV. In Jamaica, HIV is primarily transmitted through sexual intercourse. Among reported HIV cases the main risk factors are multiple sex partners, history of STIs, crack/cocaine use, and sex with sex workers.

The prevalence in the adult general population is estimated at 1.6%; however, surveys show higher HIV prevalence in key subpopulations. Surveys conducted in 2007 and 2009 found that the HIV prevalence among men who have sex with men (MSM) was 32% and 32.9% respectively; the prevalence among female sex workers in 2014 was down to 2.9% from 4.9% in 2008. Eighty five percent of all AIDS cases reported 1982 – 2013 are between the ages of 20 - 59 years. With few development partners working in this sector, U.S. development assistance is vital to complementing activities of the Government of Jamaica (GOJ).

Ministry of Health Jamaica HIV/AIDS Prevention, Treatment & Care Activity: USAID partners with the Ministry of Health (MOH) to reduce the sexual transmission of HIV by targeting Key Populations (KP), which include sex workers (SW) and men who have sex with men (MSM), through prevention services, HIV testing, referrals to health services and HIV care and treatment.

The purpose of the activity is to provide support to the Government to adopt Test and Start, improve retention and reduce the loss to follow up, particularly for Key Populations. Efforts aim to reduce stigma and discrimination, address supply chain weaknesses, build capacity within surveillance and information systems, and enhance coverage for viral load counseling and testing. Furthermore, the programs support HIV services in the community, at the facility, and at the national level to ensure sustainable systems that decrease barriers to access to treatment for all people living with HIV (PLHIV).

The activity supports KP-friendly Community based organizations to reach MSM and transgender individuals to access a core package of prevention, care and treatment services. It also targets prevention outreach interventions serving KP and priority populations; HIV Testing and Counselling using mobile testing units, and uses innovative social media and technology based strategies to increase HIV Testing and Counselling demand in select priority community-based locations. The Activity strengthens documentation and redress of HIV-related Discrimination reported in communities and targeted treatment sites.

Health Policy Plus (HP+) on Gender Norms, Stigma & Discrimination (S&D), and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) in Jamaica and the Caribbean Region: HP+ supports the development of an enabling environment with an evidence-based approach to Stigma and Discrimination reduction at the facility level. This process allows for the identification of key policy and legal issues that can be brought to the national level and fed into a broader response. Working closely with the Ministry of Health, HP+ advances the Positive Health Dignity and Prevention (PHDP) training for key facility staff members and PLHIV peer leaders with a focus on three key modules (disclosure, Gender & Sexual Diversity and treatment literacy).

HP + also addresses Gender Based Violence (GBV) in the context of HIV and seeks to address specific experiences of GBV among key populations through a clinic-based screening tool and enhanced referrals for care. This includes efforts to help healthcare providers (clinic-based and in the

community) consider GBV vulnerability for all clients, with an understanding of the particular dynamics facing women and key populations.

LINKAGES – Linkages across the Continuum of HIV Services for Key Populations Affected by HIV:

The LINKAGES Activity helps to accelerate the ability of the government and organizations, to plan and implement services that reduce HIV transmission among men who have sex with men (MSM), and trans gender persons (TG), and their sexual partners and extend the lives of those already living with HIV through improved linkage to and retention in care and treatment services. The efforts enhance the HIV prevention and care cascade by increasing reach to key populations, improving routine HIV testing and counseling, actively enrolling those with HIV into care, and supporting interventions that enable them to remain in care. LINKAGES assist the MOH and CSOs in reaching KPs through innovations, as well as scaling up of proven peer interventions related to outreach to KP and linkages to care and treatment.

